

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a watercraft with an improved waterjet propulsion system. The present invention further relates to a waterjet propulsion system with an improved steering nozzle design. The watercraft preferably is either what is known as a jet ski, a boat or a ship. A watercraft can be propelled by the thrust produced by a high-speed waterjet discharged from a nozzle located at the rear of the watercraft. A device that enables this type of propulsion is called a waterjet propulsor or a propulsor. Larger watercraft, such as a boat or a ship may often have two or more waterjet propulsors.

The improved steering nozzle design incorporates a groove(s) or a channel(s) that is formed or machined into the steering nozzle wall thickness and does not exceed the thickness of the wall. The groove(s) or channel(s) begins at a point between the steering nozzle inlet and exit and ends at a point near or at the exit of the steering nozzle. The groove(s) or channel(s) is preferably recessed into the interior surface of the steering nozzle.